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set up that he ought not to be convicted, because his motive was simply to get a reward for reporting the matter, and was not to injure railway passengers or property. This reminds one of *Roper v. Knott* (Eng. 1898), in which it was, unsuccessfully, contended that a man who put three pints of water into four gallons of milk ought not to be convicted of malicious damage to his master's property, because he only meant to be able to sell that extra quantity of milk and pocket the extra money so obtained.

Conviction upon No True Bill.—A remarkable incident marked the proceedings at the Northampton (England) Quarter Sessions last summer, when a man named Dalman was indicted for unlawfully setting fire to his household furniture. The grand jury "returned no true bill," but the clerk mistook this for a true bill. When the case was called on the prisoner pleaded guilty. Owing to his previous good character the Recorder said he would like to consider what sentence he should pass, at the same time pointing out the serious nature of the crime. The Court afterwards adjourned, and the mistake was then discovered, when the accused was released.

Proper Place for the Jury.—An Irish judge tells the following story of one of the juries in the south of Ireland, where he was trying a case. The usher of the court proclaimed, with due solemnity, the usual formula: "Gentlemen of the jury, take your proper places in the court!" whereupon seven of them, instinctively, walked into the prisoners' dock.

BOOK REVIEWS.

The Encyclopedic Digest of Virginia and West Virginia Reports.
Vol. 8. The Michie Company, Charlottesville, Va., 1907.

The present volume of this work digests the Reports of the two Virginias upon the subjects of "Intoxication" to "Jurisdiction," inclusive. The very important subjects of "Judgments and Decrees," "Joint Tenants and Tenants in Common," and "Judicial Sales and Rentings" take up most of the volume. The article on "Judgments and Decrees" covers 467 pages and is without question one of the most complete and valuable specimens of legal bibliography, in the line of Digest work, ever offered the profession. The whole case law, with full reference to statutes is given in admirable arrangement. The history, definition, statutory enactment, as passed upon by the courts, together with every decision, bringing the law from its very commencement in the States down to the courts' latest utterance, is set out in such shape that the law upon any given point can be rapidly and easily found.

"Judicial Sales and Rentings" looks at first somewhat odd, for we are apt to forget that land is frequently **rented**, as well as sold, under

decrees of court. This topic is admirably arranged and treated, and two hundred pages are given to it.

"Joint Tenants and Tenants in Common," shows the result of careful analytical work, and the evidence of trained legal minds brought to bear upon the result of decisions. One excellent feature of this work is that the law in its **present shape** is shown, so that one who is familiar with the methods used in digesting can readily find not only what the law was, but what it is.

Another feature is the reference to dissenting opinions where that opinion is of sufficient importance to justify it, and whilst this opinion is properly noted and digested, it is so arranged as to lead to no confusion, and reference is so made that where the dissenting opinion, as has often happened, is at some future time referred to with approval by the court, a reference is duly made.

This together with reference to leading text books, where such reference is rendered necessary, makes this Digest indeed encyclopedic in every respect.

R. T. W. D., Jr.

American and English Annotated Cases, edited by William M. McKinney, David S. Garland, and H. Noyes Greene. Volume 4. Edward Thompson Company, Northport, Long Island, 1907. Price \$5.00.

The 4th Volume of this valuable series of annotated cases is, if anything, a decided improvement upon the three volumes preceding. The cases reported and annotated are selected with careful discrimination, and are useful, practical and most admirably edited. The reference is given to the volume and number of each official report, so that the profession is assured that the law in that case as far as that court is concerned is the final law upon the point. The annotations in the present volume are unusually excellent, the notes being specific, clear, complete and direct. A marked advantage is the compact manner in which the notes are made and authorities cited. The English and Canadian cases selected add an additional value to the volume, as this series is the only series of selected reports of which the writer is aware which gives English and Canadian cases. A use of these books prove their value, with each using.

An Act to Regulate Commerce as Amended, and Acts Supplementary Thereto, Indexed, Digested, and Annotated by Chas. S. Hamlin, Esq., of the Boston Bar. Boston. Little, Brown & Co., 1907. 8vo. Buckram. \$3.50 net delivered.

At this time when public attention is so prominently directed towards questions of interstate commerce and the legislation passed and attempting to be passed by Congress on the subject, this book will prove peculiarly timely. It contains printed in full all of the acts intended by Congress to regulate commerce, including the Carriers' Liability Act, the Safety Appliance Act, the Act Requiring Reports of Accidents, the Arbitration Act, and the German Anti-Trust Act, along with others. It is followed by an indexed digest **practically in the nature of a concordance**, being a comprehensive index of the leading words and phrases and comparing the use of the same words and phrases with the other use of the same words and phrases as found in the other acts. The book is of decided value as a book of ready reference and to any person interested in these great questions now so much in the public eye, it will be found extremely useful. Its value would have been quadrupled had it contained, along with the index and digest of words and phrases, a reference to reported cases. We trust that this may yet come in some future edition.